



Indiana State  
Department of Health

# LONG TERM CARE NEWSLETTER

## ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter

Issue 2015-21

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### Today's Issue:

- Expressive Arts Leadership Conference
- Flu Season
- QIDP Designee Course
- CDC/FDA Procedure for Reusable Medical Devices

## Expressive Arts

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) thanks you for attending the October 22, 2015 Healthcare Quality Leadership Conference focusing on the Expressive Arts in Long Term Care. Expressive arts are person-centered creative interventions derived from the individual's interests and experiences. Several key points were addressed by the presenters:

- Successful care occurs when residents are engaged rather than entertained
- Expressive arts is an element of care, not just an activity
- Expressive arts interventions are part of the care plan
- Expressive arts are "Brain Wise" interventions that include sensory stimulation, whole brain activities, positive mood and psychosocial/relational collaboration
- Music has an effect on everyone - memories, experiences, feelings, emotions
- A music playlist creates different responses
- All residents have a "life story" - staff should engage the resident to learn that story
- Storytelling allows a person to leave a legacy of their history
- Memoirs focus on specific moments of life
- Writing gives a second chance to understand your life and events
- Colleges and universities are great partners in implementing the arts

An Expressive Arts program can result in better care within a healthcare facility. The benefit is not only for the residents but also for staff. When staff is part of an expressive arts program, the benefits for them are similar to that for the residents.

## Influenza Vaccinations

### October Begins Flu Season

State health officials are urging Hoosiers to get their flu vaccinations to protect themselves from influenza this season. Influenza, or the "flu" is a viral infection of the respiratory tract. Influenza is spread by respiratory droplets from infected people or contact with contaminated surfaces or objects. Symptoms of the flu include:

- Fever of 100° F or greater
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Cough
- Muscle aches
- Sore throat

Flu season occurs annually, typically starting around October and continuing through May. Seasonal flu viruses can vary from year to year, so it is important to get a flu vaccine every year. The flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. Although anyone can get the flu, some people are at higher risk of complications that could lead to hospitalization and even death. High-risk individuals include pregnant women, young children (especially those younger than 6 months who cannot be vaccinated), those with chronic illnesses and/or compromised immune systems and adults age 65 and older. Healthcare personnel are also encouraged to get a flu vaccine to protect themselves and their patients during the flu season.

To learn more about the flu, visit the [Indiana State Department of Health's flu page](#) or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [What You Should Know for the 2014-2015 Influenza Season](#).

### **2015-16 Influenza Vaccination Webinar**

Join the Indiana State Department of Health Live Webinar to learn about the 2015-16 seasonal influenza vaccines, trends and lessons learned from previous influenza antiviral recommendations, and specimen collection methods for influenza testing. This free webinar is scheduled for November 18, 2015 from 12:00 - 1:00 PM ET. [FREE registration and event details](#).

## **Qualified Intellectual Disability Professional (QIDP) Course**

Lacy Beyl & Company, Inc. is pleased to announce the new QIDP-D Course. The 2-day course is designed for Indiana long term care staff who serve a specialized population. Specialized rehabilitative services must be provided by or coordinated by a qualified individual. Individuals who successfully complete the course will receive a Qualified Intellectual Disability Professional Certificate. The course is scheduled for November 4 & 5, 2015 at Indiana Wesleyan University & Conference Center, Indianapolis. Registration form is available [here](#) or at [www.lacybeyl.com](http://www.lacybeyl.com).

## **CDC/FDA Notice on Reusable Medical Devices**

### **CDC/FDA - Partial Rescind Notice - Immediate Need for Healthcare Facilities to Review Procedures for Reusable Medical Devices**

On September 11, 2015, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [issued a health alert HAN 00382](#) advising healthcare providers and facilities about the public health need to properly maintain, clean, and disinfect or sterilize reusable medical devices. Recent lapses in compliance with recommended reprocessing procedures have led to increasing numbers of patient notifications about possible exposures.

On October 2, 2015 a [partial rescind notice - HAN 00383](#) was issued as a follow-up to [HAN 00382](#) (distributed September 11, 2015), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are providing this update to rescind the following recommendation:

*If healthcare facilities contract maintenance and repair of these devices to third-party vendors, healthcare facilities should verify that these vendors are approved or certified by the manufacturer to provide those services.*

CDC is making this change because there are currently no formal standardized programs or processes through which all manufacturers certify third-party vendors. CDC is also further clarifying that healthcare facilities which hire contractors to perform device reprocessing should verify that the contractor has an appropriate training program (i.e., consistent with what would be required in the healthcare facility) and that the training program includes the specific devices used by the healthcare facility.